

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
February 28, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Father Mike Maginot – St. Stephen Martyr Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mr. Minchuk and Mrs. Barron were absent. All other members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

President Hardaway congratulated Linda Burns, Manager of Clerk Treasurer department, on her retirement after 31 plus years of loyal service to the Town of Merrillville.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated February 28, 2017. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2017. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Minchuk was absent, no report.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mrs. Barron was absent, no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac thanked Town Manager, Bruce Spires for the prompt response in taking care of a clean-up of glass at the location of 78th & Chase. A discussion took place in regards to residents leaving the garbage cans at the street for several days after pick up, which is a violation of a Town Ordinance. Discussion followed.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Ms. LaMarca referred to Jan Orlich for a report. Ms. Orlich said the Merrillville Parks Department is partnering with Purdue University to offer Nutrition classes for Senior Citizens. Ms. Orlich said they are working on the upcoming summer events, concerts and movies in the park. A discussion took place related to the variety of Senior Services offered by the Parks Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Barron was absent, no report.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Pettit called an Economic Development Committee meeting, March 7, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. This EDC meeting will be to further discuss a pending tax abatement proposal in which Mr. Pettit requested to receive additional information. Some discussion followed.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mr. Spann had no report.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

President Hardaway inquired as to the status of various locations up for tax sale. Mr. Bushemi said he would follow up with the Board of Commissioners.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES: None

SECOND READING ORDINANCES: None

RESOLUTIONS: None

BZA ACTIONS:

Petitioner: Harbi Alabed
Owner: North Star Trust Company
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: Used car dealership
Location: 5924 Broadway
Zoning: C-2, Community Commercial
Case #: Z5E3-0217
Conditions: For this petitioner only at this location only for this use only.

A representative on behalf of the petitioner was present. Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Ms. LaMarca made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. Discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Parth Patel
Owner: Parth Patel
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: Smoothie King Franchise
Location: 8180 Mississippi Street
Zoning: C-3, Highway Commercial
Case #: Z6E4-0217
Conditions: For this petitioner only at this location only for this use only.

The petitioner was present to address any questions that may arise. Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. Discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Hytham Rifai
Owner: Hytham Rifai
Request: Variance of use report
Purpose: To allow a residential home to be used as office space
Location: 9717 Colorado Street
Zoning: A-1, Agriculture
Case #: Z7uV3-0217
Conditions: For this petitioner only at this location only for this use only.

A representative on behalf of the petitioner was present. Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Discussion followed related to the type of business that will be established at this location. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Petitioner: Bastiste Haywood
Owner: Wanda L. Bellich
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: Full service dine in restaurant
Location: 7600-7602 Broadway
Zoning: C-3, Highway Commercial
Case #: Z8E5-0217
Conditions: For this petitioner only at this location only for this use only.

Representation was present to address any questions that may arise. Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. Discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Police Commission meeting, March 3, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.
Economic Development Committee meeting, March 7, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.
Personnel meeting, March 7, 2017 at 5:45 p.m.
Plan Commission workshop meeting, March 7, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
Stormwater Management Board meeting, March 14, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.
Town Council meeting, March 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac.

Richard Hardaway, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer